THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c)No, Sir. No porposal as such for inclusion of four more districts of Orissa under National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Rice and three more districts for NFSM-Pulses have been received from the Government of Orissa. However, in a meeting of Agriculture Ministers of the States with Union Agriculture Minister on 16th October, 2007, the Agriculture Minister of Orissa raised an issue to replace three identified districts of Orissa *viz.* Sunergarh, Jharsuguda and Deoghar with four districts *i.e.,* Balasore, Cuttack, Bhubaneshwar and Ganjam under NFSM-Rice. The matter was examined. Since these districts do not fulfil the criteria for inclusion under NFSM-Rice, and thus, were not included. .

Failure of current pesticides regulatory system

783. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the current pesticides regulatory system in the country had failed to check manufacturing, distribution and use of spurious and sub-standard pesticides which has caused huge loss to farmers;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to revamp such regulatory system and to prevent distribution of sub-standard perticides which is endangering the environment;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. It is not a fact that the current pesticides regulatory system in the country had failed to check manufacturing, distribution and use of spurious and sub-standard pesticides which has caused huge loss to farmers. The Government regulates the manufacture and use of pesticides under the provisons of the Insecticides Act, 1968. The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968, registers pesticides only after having satisfied itself of their efficacy and safety. Quality assurances of pesticides is ensured by the State Government through regular drawl and analysis of pesticides samples through a network of Insecticide Inspectors, Insecticide Analysts and Pesticides Testing Laboratories. Under the provisons of the Act penal action is taken by the States against manufacturers of spurious and substandard pesticides.

The Government of India provides assistance to the States for establishing and strengthening of Pesticides Testing Laboratories. The Government also promotes judicious use of pesticides through its policy of Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

Price of milk

784. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of milk and milk products, indicating demands and supply, State-wise daring last three years.

(b) whether prices of milk has also been increased in all States with the increase in its production;

(c) if so, the average price of milk in the country at present;

(d) whether the price of milk is beyond the reach of most of the people, particularly poor and below poverty line segments;

(e) if so, Government's response thereto and whether Government has any proposal for setting up innovative dairy projects;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps being taken by Government for modernization of dairy units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRYOFAGRICULTURE (SHRI TASUMUDDIN): (a) The production of milk and milk products at National level is by and large sufficient to meet the domestic demand. Since major quantity of milk is handled in unorganized sector, no authentic data on production of milk products in the country is available. State-wise estimates of milk production in last three years are enclosed as Statement-I *(See* below).

(b) and (c) Price of milk has increased in last few years mainly due to increase in the costs of production, procurement, processing and marketing. A list of average prices of milk in various cities in the country is enclosed as Statement-II *(See* below).

(d) to (0 The Government does not have any report of any difficulty faced by poor and below poverty line segments in regard to milk prices. However, Government is regularly monitoring the availability of milk and milk products to ensure availability at reasonable price in the country and takes necessary action as and when situation demands. Further, the Government is implementing various dairy development schemes, including those which provide scope for innovative dairy projects to enhance milk production.

(g) The Government of India supplements efforts of the State Governments to modernize dairy units in the country thorugh the following schemes:

(i) National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.

(ii) Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production.

(iii) Intensive Dairy Development Programme.

(iv) Assistance to Cooperatives.

(v) Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund.

(vi) Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.

Statement-1

Estimate of milk production 2004-05 *to* 2006-07

(000 tonnes)

SI. No.	Name of the State/UTs	2004-05	2005-06	200607
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7257	7624	7939
2	Arunachal Pradesh	48	48	49
3.	Assam	739	747	751
4.	Bihar	4743	5060	5450
5.	Chhattisgarh	831	839	849